

HOME NEWS

Maldives minister wants closer ties with Arab and Islamic nations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Maldives want stronger relations with Arab and Islamic nations, and support their causes, especially the struggle against Israel, the Islands Minister of Transport Ahmad Mugu Thana said here Wednesday.

Mr. Thana, who arrived for a 24 hour visit to Jordan, said his country considers Israel's occupation of Arab lands and holy places as a challenge to all Muslim nations. During Israel's invasion of Lebanon, the Maldivian people, led by

their President Ma'moun Abdul Qayoum, staged demonstrations expressing their condemnation of such aggression, Mr. Thana said. He also thanked Jordan deeply for its role as a prime-mover in attaining his country's acceptance

as a U.N. member nation.

In reply to a question by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Thana said that his country supports the Fez Arab Summit Plan for establishing peace in the Middle East, and backs the struggle of the Palestinian people to regain their homelands.

During the visit Mr. Thana is expected to hold talks with Transport Minister Ali Suheimat and other senior Jordanian officials.



The Maldivian Islands Minister of Transport, Ahmad Mugu Thana, holds discussions with Jordanian officials during his 24 hour visit. (Petra photo)

Feasibility study to be commissioned for compound chemical fertiliser factory

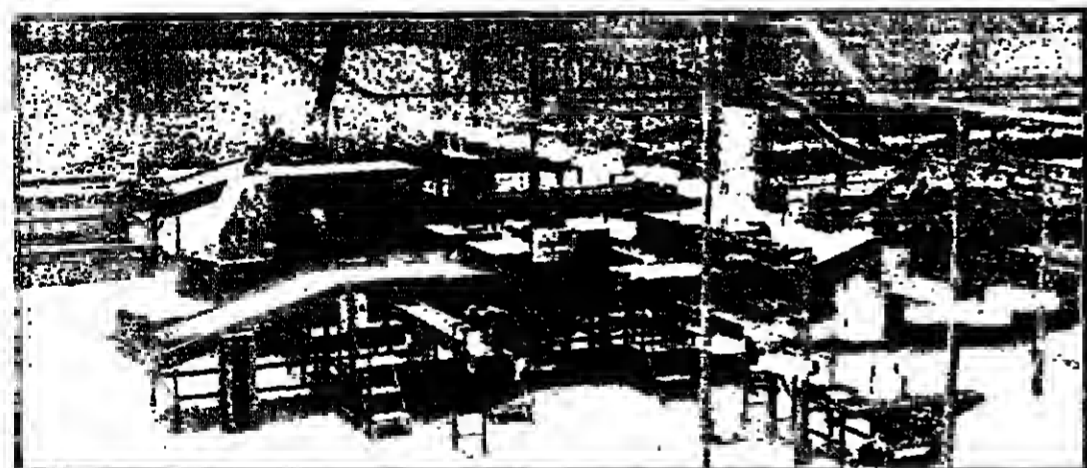
AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Potash Company (APC), the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company (JFIC) and the Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPMC) are currently cooperating in the marketing of fertiliser products abroad while trying to boost output at home, according to APC Director-General and Chairman of the three companies' joint Coordination Committee Ali Khasawneh.

He said that Jordan has two of the basic elements needed to produce chemical fertilisers, namely potash and phosphates, but lacks the third necessary element of nitrogen, which is found in abundance in Arab oil producing countries.

Our priority now is to establish a factory for producing compound chemical fertilisers in cooperation with Arab countries, Dr. Khasawneh added.

sawneh said. He added that the project is now under joint study by the APC, JFIC and JPMC prior to inviting tenders from international firms for a feasibility study of the project.

When implemented, such a project will create jobs for Jordanian workers and technicians, and will earn the country large amounts of foreign exchange, Dr. Khasawneh added.



Wadi El Yabis marketing centre in the Jordan Valley (Photo: Margi Bryant)

British Institute assesses marketing developments in the Jordan Valley

By Margi Bryant
Special to the Jordan Times

A team from Britain's Tropical Products Institute (TPI) Wednesday concluded a ten-day visit to Jordan where they have been assessing agricultural marketing developments in the Jordan Valley. Their visit comes at a time when recent decisions by the Higher Agricultural Council (HAC) have confirmed the vital importance of agricultural marketing to Jordan's overall economic development.

TPI is part of the U.K. Overseas Development Administration, and its area of responsibility covers everything that happens to a crop after harvesting—including storage, transportation, processing, quality control and marketing.

TPI first became involved in the Jordan Valley in 1977 when they carried out the feasibility study for the Wadi El Yabis marketing centre. This resulted in an ODA project loan of £1.45 million (JD 1 million at then-prevailing values) towards the JD 1.3 million total cost of the centre, and the provision of two long-term technical advisers to the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA). The feasibility study report stressed the importance of quality control in agricultural produce and packaging if Jordan was to maintain—let alone improve—its position as an exporter of fresh fruit and vegetables to neighbouring Arab countries.

The Wadi El Yabis marketing centre is the second in a string of four sorting, grading, packaging

and auctioning centres which the JVA is building in the Valley to replace the old local assembly markets. The first centre, at El Arda, was built with Dutch aid and opened for a trial run in 1981, but has since been turned over to tomato paste-processing.

Wadi El Yabis was substantially completed last year and is expected to commence operations in the forthcoming season. Its design and consultant engineering were by the British firm Covell Matthews, with construction by the Jordanian company Development Engineering Ltd.

The centre contains two large grading and packaging lines for tomatoes, with throughput capacities of ten and six tonnes per hour, two small tomato lines with hourly capacities of two tonnes each, and two lines for other vegetables with hourly capacities of five tonnes each. All the equipment comes from Roda International of Italy. The centre also has a large auction hall and a box factory, and a cold store may be added later.

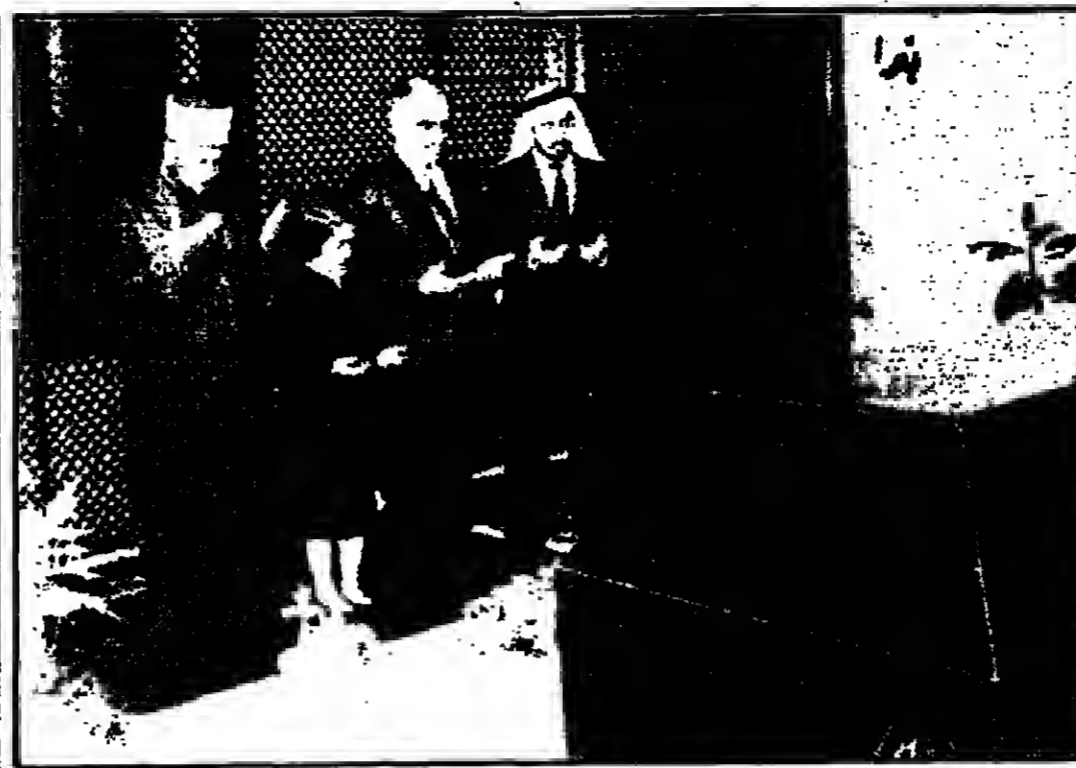
With construction of Wadi El Yabis completed, a lot of good market research is needed in order to identify the most promising export outlets and their requirements. "This has been a neglected area so far," he added. Though Britain is keeping its involvement fairly low-key until the new organisations actually come into being, there are hints that the ODA would consider assisting either or both organisations with financial and/or technical assistance.

running the centres.

ODA and the other funding agencies have also been concerned that the centres were likely to exist in a vacuum, having no defined role in any broader marketing and export strategy. These worries have now been somewhat allayed by the decision of the Higher Agricultural Council (HAC) to form two agricultural marketing organisations—one a joint public/private sector company which will run the marketing centres, and the other a regulatory body to enforce quality control in produce and packaging.

"The most important recent development on Jordan's agricultural scene is this twin-yolked egg which the HAC is hatching," Mr. Mike Morgan Rees, deputy director of TPI, told the Jordan Times. The regulatory body was the most important of the two, he added, as it would force farmers and traders to aim for the high standards which the markets in other Arab countries—especially Saudi Arabia and the Gulf—now demand.

At the same time, said Mr. Morgan Rees, a lot of good market research is needed in order to identify the most promising export outlets and their requirements. "This has been a neglected area so far," he added. Though Britain is keeping its involvement fairly low-key until the new organisations actually come into being, there are hints that the ODA would consider assisting either or both organisations with financial and/or technical assistance.



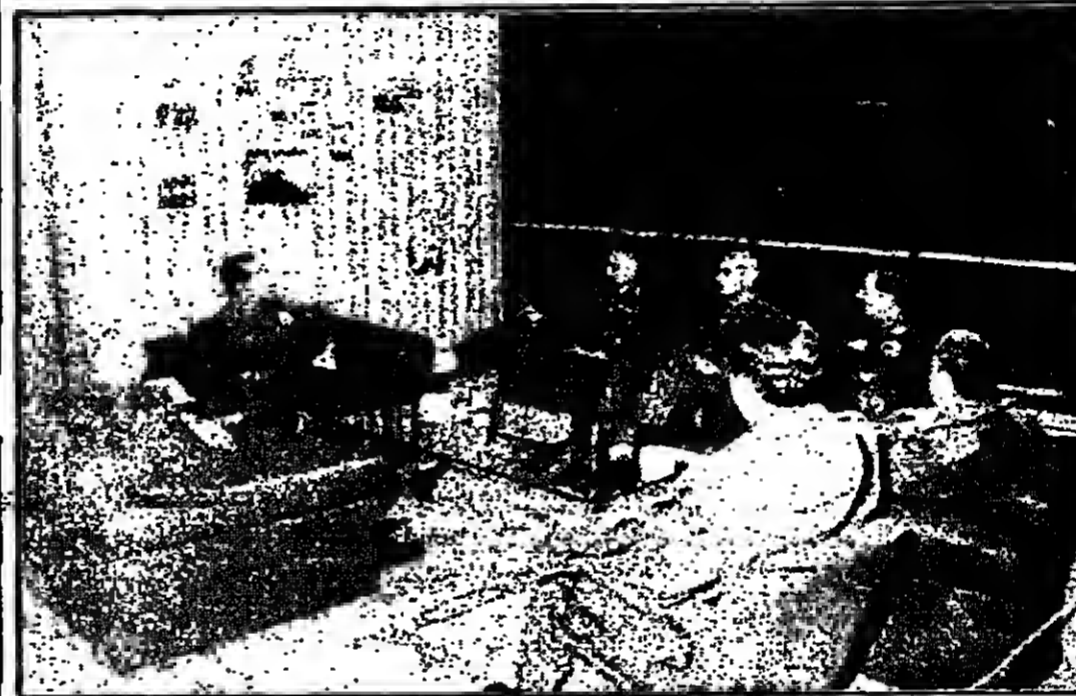
His Majesty King Hussein and Princess Haya visit the tomb of the late Queen Alia. (Petra photo)

Hussein marks the sixth anniversary of Alia's death

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday visited the tomb of the late Queen Alia on the sixth anniversary of her death.

where he recited verses of the Holy Koran. He was accompanied by his daughter Princess Haya.

Queen Alia died in a helicopter crash in 1977 between Amman and Madaba.



Jordanian armed forces Commander-in-Chief Zaid Ibn Shaker (second from left) holds talks with a Pakistani military delegation (Petra photo)

Pakistani military delegation meets the Jordanian Commander-in-Chief

AMMAN (Petra) — A Pakistani military delegation had a meeting here Wednesday with the Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. The meeting was attended by Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu

Taleb. The delegation arrived in Amman Wednesday morning for a visit to Jordan expected to last several days. Its members will hold talks with the Jordanian military, and will tour army installations and positions as well as archaeological sites in the country.

Upon arriving in Amman the delegation was met by senior government army officers, the Pakistani ambassador to Jordan Prof. Ehsan Rashid, and embassy staff.

3-day seminar on Islam and the modern economy opens at the University

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day seminar on the Islamic economy and its inter-relationships with modern economic systems opened at the University of Jordan Wednesday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

University President Abdul Salam Al Majali, who deputised for Prince Hassan, made the main address at the opening session, in which he called on the participants to find ways of applying Islamic rules in resolving modern economic problems.

The seminar is designed to give specialists the chance to try to tackle economic problems in the Arab and Islamic worlds by implementing Islamic economic principles, Dr. Majali said. He said Islam had prescribed rules for solving problems related to economic, commercial, industrial and agricultural issues, and experts are invited to try to make use of them.

Other speakers in the first session included the university's Economy and Commerce Faculty Dean Dr. Wadie Sharaiha, and Dr. Nouri Al Oaisi from the Iraqi

Research and Studies Institute, who also called on the participants to apply Islamic laws in solving economic problems in the Arab and Islamic worlds.

The delegates, representing seven Arab countries, will be discussing how Islamic principles affect labour-related issues, economic planning, land ownership, monetary policies. Taking part in the seminar are representatives from Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Syria.



A three day seminar on Islam and contemporary economics began Wednesday at the University of Jordan (Petra photo)

Committee urges PNC to endorse Jordanian Palestinian cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based Arab Higher Committee for Palestine Wednesday called on the Lebanese government and Arab states to adopt measures to safeguard Palestinian people living in Lebanon, as well as their institutions.

In a statement issued in Amman, the committee denounced by attempts at interference in the affairs of the Palestinian people and to improve restrictions on the Palestinian leadership.

The statement welcomed the forthcoming meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in

Algeria, and hoped that it would adopt resolutions to endorse Jordanian Palestinian plans for cooperation and unity among both peoples.

The statement expressed total support for Iraq and praised its successes in the war against the Iranian enemy in defence of the Arab Nation. The committee statement also contained a condemnation of a recent statement issued in Damascus extending support for Iran. The Syrian-Libyan-Iranian statement represents an extension of the Israeli-Iranian alliance against the Arab Nation, the statement said.

Iraq and Jordan agree on cooperation in sport and youth-related affairs

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Iraq have reached agreement on bilateral cooperation in youth-related affairs and sports coordination. They have also agreed that Iraqi sports coaches should go to Jordan to train promising Jordanian sportsmen.

Agreement was reached in talks held in Iraq over the past four days between Jordanian Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar and Iraqi Minister of Youth Ahmad Hussein Al Samarra'i. Both sides agreed on bolstering mutual cooperation in sports and youth activities on both regional and international levels. Mr. Abu Nowar said upon returning here Wednesday from

Baghdad. He said that in addition to his Iraqi counterpart, he met Iraqi first Vice Premier Taha Yasir Ramadan, Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Minister of Culture and Information Latif Nasif Jassem.

The minister added that Jordan is now preparing for participation in the Los Angeles Olympic Games, and that Jordanian sports teams will also play matches in several Arab countries. He also called for coordination among Arab states in youth and sports affairs generally. The minister was accompanied on the Iraqi visit by the Administrative Director at the Ministry of Culture and Youth Usama Miqdadi.

NEWS IN BRIEF

JEA extends electrification

KARAK (Petra) — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announced Wednesday that it has just supplied the two villages of Saka and Samra in Karak Governorate with electricity. The electrification project entailed extending existing cables for 10 kilometres, with the power being fed to the two villages from the 11,000 volt high tension grid in the region. A JEA spokesman said. In the coming week JEA will supply the town of Taybeh, also in Karak Governorate, with electricity, the spokesman said.

Telephone seminar begins Wednesday

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on operating and maintaining the new telephone network in Jordan was held at the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Wednesday. Attending the seminar were 40 engineers and directors of TCC offices around the country who were briefed on an organisational plan for the modernisation of the telephone network.

Yarmouk University resumes the session

IRBID (Petra) — Classes re-opened at Yarmouk University after a three week mid-year holiday. All students registered for day-time and evening classes in the current academic year resumed study in the various faculties, a university announcement said.

Joint services provisions in the Ajloun District discussed by Ministry

AMMAN (Petra) — The needs of the joint services council, set up to run services for six towns in Ajloun District, were discussed at a meeting held Wednesday at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment.

The meeting, chaired by Minister Hassan Al Momani, discussed the establishment of a slaughter house to serve the six towns. It also discussed the provision of a refrigerator truck, an ambulance and a snow plough. It

then reviewed plans for building agricultural roads and constructing schools in the district. The towns represented on the council are Ajloun, Ibbin, Ain Jana, Sakhra, Billin and Kuf-runeh.

Minister Momani also received Wednesday the Fuhais Municipal Council to discuss ways of implementing the municipality's 1983 services programme. Several ministry aides were present at the meeting.

TOP CLASS JOB WANTED

Qualified and ambitious Jordanian assistant manager requests a creative job preferable to be in American or European TRADING FIRMS.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1) B.A. in economics and commerce.
- 2) 5.5 years wide trading experience.
- 3) Fluent in Arabic and English.
- 4) High managerial skills and ability to operate independently.

Please Send to P.O. Box 418 Amman

BIG SALE ISIS STORES

Announce the big sale in all kinds of textiles. From 40% to 50% off.

Opposite main post office
Prince Moh'd Street
Tel. 22570 Amman

FEATURES

Kremlin in search of better deal for the man in the street

By Brian Killen
Reuter

MOSCOW — The Soviet government has issued a decree calling for a better deal for the man in the street, apparently part of a concerted drive by the new leadership to improve the Kremlin's image at home.

Since coming to power in November, Soviet leader Yuri Andropov has spearheaded a vigorous campaign for better services and increased efficiency.

His clear intention has been to shake the inertia out of the Soviet economic system but some Western diplomats have noted a degree

of public relations work behind the efficiency drive.

The decree said shortcomings in service industries indirectly harmed the economy because long queues at food shops and delays in other services left people with less time for work and it called for "the needs of the Soviet people to be met more fully and better."

One diplomat said: "Much of this new decree is pure public relations, but it ties in with recent unusual reports of politburo meetings and the new style of leadership."

Under Mr. Andropov, the Soviet leadership has published a series of accounts of Communist

Party politburo meetings, apparently reflecting the Kremlin's desire to show that it is working in the public interest.

Politburo sessions are not normally mentioned in the Soviet press and during Leonid Brezhnev's 18 years as party leader they were shrouded in secrecy and anonymity.

The latest decree and the politburo accounts appear to be part of a skilfully-conducted campaign aimed at popularising the view that the new Kremlin leaders are not only aware of the problems of the long-suffering Soviet consumer but are doing something about them.

At the latest politburo meeting the leadership was reported to have discussed shortcomings in service industries. It promised that the authorities would try to make shopping easier by improving the country's lagging service sector.

Shortly afterwards, the new decree was issued. It was preceded by stinging complaints published in the state-controlled media that followed a pattern similar to that used before the publication of two previous major decrees.

A letter published under the heading "every service should be kind" appeared recently in the government newspaper Izvestia. It called for an end to sloppy

service in shops, laundries and dining rooms and complained of long delays in repairs and in receiving goods which had been ordered and paid for.

"Customers often haunt the thresholds of repair shops for months and even years," the letter said.

Lorry drivers, waiters, taxi drivers, piano tuners and even nurses thought that there was nothing shameful in asking for a little extra over and above what they receive according to official prices, it added.

Last December the politburo announced that it had discussed letters written from ordinary people all over the country com-

plaining of poor management and corruption. One week later, new decrees toughening sentences for criminals, especially those involved in corruption, were announced.

Another major decree issued under Mr. Andropov's tenure concerned shortcomings in the transport system. This same topic was also reported to have been discussed at a politburo meeting and had been the subject of fierce press criticism.

The decree said there would be longer opening hours for shops, repair shops, clinics and other services "so that it will be more convenient for working people."

The decree also said there would be greater use of part-time workers, mostly pensioners and young mothers, and services would in future be available at the work place.

One of the most frequent complaints among Soviet consumers is that shoppers, who are mostly women, have to spend half their week queuing for food and other essentials.

Most food shops are already open until 8 p.m. but supplies of most foods are sold out by then.

The decree did not say how the new measures would be carried out, nor did it allocate government funds, but simply said that various ministries, were charged with

implementing the proposals. Few would argue that it will be an extremely difficult and long process to change the Soviet Union's retail trade network and reduce the country's bottlenecks and lengthy queues.

Press articles have pointed out that a whole new infrastructure is required — modern sewing machines, pressing machines, better transport, cash registers and much more.

The scale of the task facing Mr. Andropov is enormous. Soviet scientists have calculated that in one year alone the population spends about 125 million man-hours on domestic chores.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

HOTELS

IN SABASTIA RESTAURANT
KOREAN
JAPANESE
CHINESE
EUROPEAN
FOOD

One of the best hotels in Amman
THE AMBASSADOR

Tel. 665161 62 63
Ext. 93

Amman's most experienced hotel
BUFFET LUNCH at CROWN ROTISSERIE
Sundays & Fridays
For Reservation 41361.5

Hotel Jerusalem International Melia
* Luncheon Buffet
Every FRIDAY & SUNDAY
Tel. 665121/8

PHILADELPHIA HOTEL
4 STAR HOTEL
92 ROOMS
DISCO
SWIMMING POOL
COFFEE SHOP

Holiday Inn
Luncheon Buffet
Every Friday
Res. 663100

Cavern Club Disco
San Rock Hotel
Delicious Dinner
Terrific Show
And All Night Long Dancing
Res. 813800

San Rock Hotel
Daily Luncheon, Dinner, Buffet
Special Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Luncheon Buffet
Tel. 663100

TRANSPORTATION

CLEARANCE
SHIPPING - TRAVEL & TOURISM
AIR FREIGHT - PACKING

AMIN KAWAR & SONS
Travel & Tourism

GENERAL SALES AGENTS FOR:
SAS SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES
THAI AIRWAYS
Tel. 37195, 22324-5-6-7-8-9
Tlx. 21212, 21520, 21634
P.O. Box: 7806, AMMAN

1982 models
WASSIM
RENT-A-CAR
short & long term
Tel. 44579-43515
Cameo Hotel

CROWN INTERNATIONAL WORLDWIDE
Specialists in local & international removals
shipping & forwarding (air, land, sea)
* storage * packing * crating
* clearing * door-to-door service
CROWN INTERNATIONAL EST.
Amman - Jabal Hussein - Firas Circle
Tel. 664090 Tlx. 22205 BESMCO JO
Aqaba Tel. 5778

Guaranteed results,
reasonable prices
and quick delivery
for all proprietors of
printing presses.

call: Jordan Press Foundation
Tel. 667171

MISCELLANEOUS

THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL CONTACT LENS CENTER
EYES EXAMINED
CONTACT LENSES
Seven days a week
Amman, Tel. 42043

ABSOLUTELY
The Best Optician in Town
Optikos
Intercontinental Hotel
Moderate Prices
Same Day Delivery
Tel. 42043

RESTAURANTS

MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT AMMAN AND AQABA
Offer typical Chinese Mandarin cuisines and take away
For quick lunch: 1 soup 1 main dish,
1 rice 1 tea or soft drink JD 2
Fully airconditioned

Amman
Tel. 661922 P.O. Box 9676
Wadi Saqra Road
Near Holiday Inn Hotel

AQABA
Tel. 4633 P.O. Box 598
Amman Road
Near the Main Circle

ROMERO
The Italian Restaurant
12:30 — 3:30
6:30 — midnight
Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle
Tel. 44227
Closed on Mondays

Restaurant TAIWAN TOURISMO
Opp. Akliah Maternity Hospital, 3rd Circle, Jabal Amman, Tel. 41093.
Try our special "FLAMING POT" fondue or Peking Duck on your next visit. Take-Away orders welcome.
Welcome & Thank you.

Stop Here Once...
& You'll Come Again
Abu Nawwas Bar
Happy Hour
From 7 to 8 p.m.
Drinks half price
Hala Inn Hotel, Jabal Amman
Near Khalidi Hospital
Tel. 43106, 43856

To advertise in this section
call: 666320

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman,
near Ahliyyah Girls School
Open daily
12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight
Tel. 38968

La Terrasse
welcomes you daily to a spread of the most delicious oriental and western foods, to the tunes of renowned Polish pianist
Christina.
We offer you:
* Relaxing atmosphere, charcoal grills, fresh fish, Lebanese mezza; in addition to La Terrasse's delicious specialties.
for reservations
Tel. 662831
Shmeisani

AQABA

MIRAMAR HOTEL
New ?? New ??
Oriental Restaurant
Korean-Japanese-Chinese
Best food
you ever taste!
Aqaba, Tel. 4339/41
TLX 62275 JO

Holiday Inn
Aqaba
for membership
At the Holiday Inn, Aqaba
TENNIS COURT
please contact
Tel. 2427 (04)
Aqaba

CHINA RESTAURANT
The first and best Chinese restaurant in Aqaba. Take-away service available.
Open daily 11:30 — 3:30
6:30 — 11.00 p.m. Tel. 4415

ABOVE HOMAN SUPERMARKET
OPPELAYS BANK
AQABA THEATRE
Omar
AL-QADIR (Bar)
Aqaba Municipality

OPTIKOS. SHAMI OPTOMETRISTS
Aqaba, Tel. 4446
O.D. اوبتيكوس شامي
اوبنيمترست ونظاراتي قانوني
العقبة ت 4446

THE AQABA AQUAMARINA HOTEL-CLUB
OFFERS YOU ON THE BEACH FLOOR
A SPECIAL OFFER
SINGLE ROOM: JD 7.500
REGULAR PRICE: JD 14.280
DOUBLE ROOM: JD 9.000
REGULAR PRICE: JD 17.640
ALL ROOMS WITH T.V., MINI BAR & VIDEO (TILL 2 A.M.)
THE ONLY PLACE WHERE YOU CAN ENJOY ALL WATER SPORTS ACTIVITIES.
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS PLEASE DO CALL US: TEL. 4332/4/5/6 TLX: 62246 AQUAMA JO.

